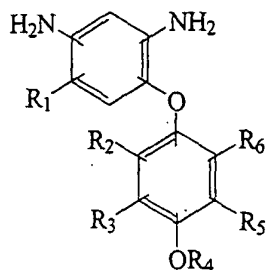


## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An aromatic diamine derivative having the structure of formula (I):



Formula (I)

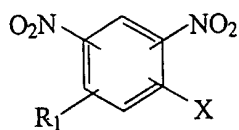
wherein,

each of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub>, independently, is hydrogen or a monovalent organic functional group, and

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>7</sub>, CONR<sub>7</sub>, or (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, wherein n is an integer of from 1 to 5, and R<sub>7</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl.

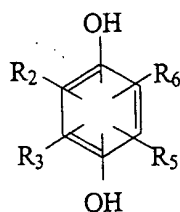
2. The aromatic diamine derivative according to claim 1 wherein each of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub>, independently, is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, and the two amino groups are directly attached to the 2-position and the 4-positioned of the benzene ring.
3. The aromatic diamine derivative according to claim 1 wherein the aromatic diamine derivative is 1-[4-(2,4-diaminophenoxy)phenoxy]octane.
4. The aromatic diamine derivative according to claim 1 wherein the aromatic diamine derivative is 1-[4-(2,4-diaminophenoxy)phenoxy]dodecane.
5. A method for preparing the compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, the method comprising:

- (a) reacting a dinitrobenzene compound of formula (II)



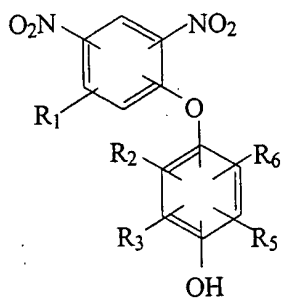
Formula (II)

with a hydroquinone compound of formula (III)



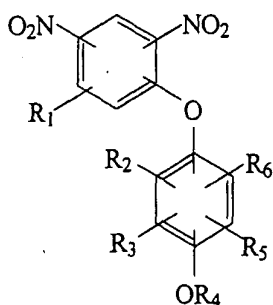
Formula (III)

in the presence of a base and an organic solvent to form a compound of formula (IV);



Formula (IV)

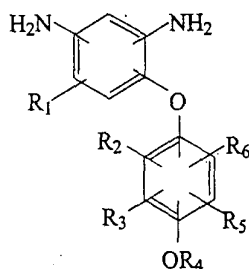
- (b) reacting the compound of formula (IV) with a halide  $R_4X$  in the presence of a base and an organic solvent to form a compound of formula (V);



Formula (V)

and

- (c) hydrogenating the compound of formula (V) to form the compound of formula (I),



Formula (I)

wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ , and  $R_6$  are those defined in claim 1, and X is halogen selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, and Br.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the base is selected from carbonates of IA and IIA metals, trimethylamine, triethylamine, and diisopropylethylamine.
7. The method according to claim 5 wherein the organic solvent is selected from acetone, butanone, N-methylpyrrolidone, N,N-dimethylacetamide, and N,N-dimethylformamide.
8. The method according to claim 5 wherein the halide is selected from  $C_4$ - $C_{20}$  alkyl fluoride, chloride, and bromide.

9. A polyimide resin used as an alignment film material for a liquid crystal display device, the polyimide resin being prepared by a polymerization reaction between a tetracarboxylic acid or a dianhydride derivative thereof and a diamine, wherein the diamine comprises at least 5 mol% of one or more of the diamine derivatives of formula (I) according to claim 1.
10. The polyimide resin according to claim 9 wherein the diamine comprises at least 20 mol% of one or more of the diamine derivatives of formula (I) according to claim 1.
11. The polyimide resin according to claim 9 wherein the diamine comprises 1-[4-(2,4-diaminophenoxy)phenoxy]octane.
12. The polyimide resin according to claim 9 wherein the diamine comprises 1-[4-(2,4-diaminophenoxy)phenoxy]dodecane.